

WEATHER & CROPS





USDA/NASS/Virginia Field Office P.O. Box 1659 Richmond, VA 23218-1659 Phone (804) 771-2493 http://www.nass.usda.gov/va

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# WEATHER CONDITIONS AND CROP SUMMARY FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 19, 2011

Hot and dry weather has caused some heat stress on corn and soybeans but the much needed weekend rains provided some relief to Virginia briefly. Days suitable for fieldwork were 5.9. In some areas hayfields and pastures continued to look good. Wheat harvest has been going well in some areas with good test weight, food quality, and great yields. Double crop soybeans continued to be planted. Peanuts and cotton look good with the major activity being herbicide sprays. Vegetable farmers are harvesting early tomatoes, cucumbers, and summer squash. Blueberries and blackberries are growing well and watermelon and cantaloupes are vining up.

TOPSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT									
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus					
May 22, 2011	0	9	69	22					
May 29, 2011	2	20	69	9					
June 5, 2011	7	40	51	2					
June 12, 2011	11	33	55	1					
June 19, 2011	6	30	62	2					

SUBSOIL MOISTURE PERCENT									
Week Ending	Very Short	Short	Adequate	Surplus					
May 22, 2011	0	14	74	12					
May 29, 2011	2	24	70	4					
June 5, 2011	3	32	63	2					
June 12, 2011	6	37	56	1					
June 19, 2011	2	30	67	1					

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**Virginia Cooperative Extension Service** 

Virginia Tech

**Virginia State University** 







CROP CONDITION PERCENT									
Сгор	Very Poor Poor		Fair	Good	Excellent				
Pasture	1	8	28	53	10				
Livestock	0	2	14	67	17				
Hay, Other	0	3	27	56	14				
Hay, Alfalfa	0	0 3		73	14				
Corn	0	2	27	65	6				
Soybeans	0	1	22	69	8				
Winter Wheat	0	0	5	82	13				
Barley	0	0	12	76	12				
Oats	0	0	19	79	2				
Tobacco, Flue-cured	0	1	51	34	14				
Tobacco, Burley	0	1	30	50	19				
Tobacco, Dark Fire-cured	0	3	60	30	7				
Peanuts	0	0	3	85	12				
Cotton	0	0	3	83	14				
Summer Potatoes	0	0	50	50	0				
Apples, All	0	0	4	87	9				
Peaches	0	1	28	63	8				
Grapes	0	0	40	60	0				

CROP PROGRESS PERCENT – WITH COMPARISONS									
Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5 Year Avg.					
Corn Silked	20	17	12	6					
Soybeans Planted	69	56	73	65					
Soybeans Emerged	55	42	59	52					
Burley Tobacco Transplanted	96	84	99	99					
Peanuts Planted	100	100	100	99					
Peanuts Pegged	15	N/A	2	4					
Cotton Squaring	30	25	2	7					
Winter Wheat Harvested	50	30	40	25					
Barley Harvested	75	50	77	60					

# VIRGINIA WEEKLY WEATHER SUMMARY FOR THE WEEK ENDING JUNE 19, 2011

City	Temperature					Growing degree days (modified base 50) 1/		Precipitation					
City	Avg. max.	Avg. min.	High max.	Low min.	Avg.	Avg. dep. from normal *	Mar. 1 to Jun. 18	Mar. 1 to Jun. 18 normal	Last Week	Since Jun. 1	Jun. 1 dep. from normal *	Jan. 1 to date	Jan. 1 dep. from normal *
Lynchburg	83	59	91	52	71	0	1414	1246	2.01	2.15	-0.02	16.94	-3.22
Norfolk	85	70	95	63	77	3	1650	1353	0.61	3.49	1.37	15.49	-5.16
Richmond	86	65	93	60	76	3	1617	1378	0.31	1.45	-0.62	17.27	-2.58
Roanoke	85	61	91	54	73	2	1460	NA	0.28	1.57	-0.64	17.94	-2.21
Wash/Dulles	83	60	90	53	71	1	1351	NA	0.73	0.75	-1.74	18.39	-0.96

<sup>\*</sup> Normal based on 1971-2000 data. Source: NCEP/NOAA Climate Prediction Center http://www.cpc.ncep.noaa.gov. Source: USDA, NASS, Virginia Field Office.

# REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

#### **NORTHERN**

#### FREDERICK (Jeanette R. Smith)

The county is getting dry. The ground is starting to crack and some corn is starting to roll up. Need rain.

#### **WESTERN**

#### **ROCKBRIDGE (Tom Stanley)**

Hot dry weather for the week allowed much of the first hay cutting still standing to be harvested but topsoil moisture rapidly declined until Saturday and Sunday nights when showers moved through the county. Most areas in Rockbridge received totals of between .5 and 1.25 inches of rain over the weekend bringing welcomed relief to increasingly parched summer crops.

# **CENTRAL**

# AMELIA (Joan D. Poore)

All early crop soybeans are planted - remaining acres are the double crop soybeans to be planted behind barley and wheat. Overall it was a good weather week. Scattered evening showers were a hit and miss. We received anywhere from zero to a few tenths. Some areas of the county that have not received much rain, the crops show the need for moisture.

### **CAROLINE (McGann Saphir)**

Soil moisture is very good. Hay fields and pastures are looking good. Corn was beginning to stress last week, but we have had almost 2 inches of rain in the last few days, and that has saved the corn crop. Soybeans are also looking good. Vegetable farmers are harvesting early tomatoes, and summer squash. Blueberries are yielding well. Sequential plantings of tomatoes and peppers are still going in the fields. Watermelons and cantaloupes are vining up. Blackberries have formed and are beginning to ripen.

## **CHESTERFIELD (Joan D Poore)**

Hit and miss showers - overall crops look fair to good considering the moisture and temperatures. Not critical, but rain is needed. Early soybeans are 100 % complete. Double crop soybeans are still being planted behind barley and wheat.

#### **FLUVANNA (John Thompson)**

Dry conditions from end of May to current have stressed pastures and hay fields. Welcome relief has been falling lately in the region. If adequate moisture continues through June, the next cutting of hay may be better than anticipated.

#### **CENTRAL** (continued)

#### **HANOVER (Jim Tate)**

Until the end of the week crop conditions were in serious deterioration. Hot and dry weather was taking a serious toll on corn and newly emerging beans. Corn across the county was looking good but was seriously rolling due to the heat and dry conditions. On Friday 6/17/2011 we had scattered showers. At my home in western Hanover we had 7/10 but the eastern part of the county was missed. On Sunday 6/19/2011 we again had afternoon showers that seemed to be scattered. By Monday morning we seemed to be having widespread rain

#### **EASTERN**

## KING GEORGE (John Howe)

Corn and soybeans suffered from heat and lack of moisture during most of the week. Much needed rain fell Saturday night and Sunday morning providing relief to the dry conditions that prevailed for much of the week. Good week for making hay and harvesting small grain.

# **MIDDLESEX (David Moore)**

Conditions are getting dry again. Corn looks much better since last week's rain, but is in definite need of more. Early corn is tasseling. Potential yields have probably been hurt some. More rain next week would help. The heat has taken its toll on crops and sped up development. Wheat harvest has been good in most areas. Good test weight, good quality, and great yields. A lot of defensive fungicides were applied this year and were not needed, but producers wanted to protect the crop. Soybean planting continues and the crop looks good overall. Activities include post treatments to soybeans, soybean planting, wheat harvest, irrigation, and vegetable planting. Some hay continues to be made. Vegetables look good under irrigation. The heat has progressed vegetable development too. Maybe we will have sweet corn, tomatoes, etc. by 4th of July in some places.

# **RICHMOND**

Weekend rains offer hope to the corn crop in desperate need of moisture.

# **REPORTER COMMENTS BY COUNTY (continued)**

Comments are based on comments reported by extension agents, farmers, commodity specialists, and other knowledgeable individuals.

#### **SOUTHWESTERN**

# SCOTT (Scott Jerrell)

Heavy rain showers over the weekend have provided much needed moisture. Cucumbers and squash are coming into harvest, with tomatoes appearing to be later developing than normal.

## SMYTH (Andy Overbay)

Scattered showers have left much of Smyth County in reasonably good shape. Cooler weather has helped very much as well. The corn crop is nearly all in and growing well. Second cuttings of hay are beginning to grow as well. Where showers have not fallen, the ground is very dry and grass/hay crops are short.

### **TAZEWELL (John Blankenship)**

The previous two weeks have been extremely dry from no rainfall. It rained over the weekend.

#### SOUTHEASTERN

# **BRUNSWICK (Cynthia L. Gregg)**

Storms this week caused some issues. Producers are scouting for insects. Producers have been laying by tobacco this week as well.

# PRINCE GEORGE (Scott Reiter)

Rain showers over the past week have hampered wheat harvest. Wheat yields continue to be reported as very good although moisture levels have required drying or discounts at the elevator. The up side is the moisture levels for double crop soybean planting have been good. Corn is starting to tassel and silk. Peanuts, cotton, and soybeans all look good with the major activity being herbicide sprays.

## **SOUTHAMPTON (John Rudy)**

Wheat harvest is winding down with yields and quality looking very good. Rain showers, although spotty, have been enough overall to keep crops going. Subsoil moisture is not improving much. Double crop soybeans are going in now and the rains will help. Pastures continue to improve.

#### **SOUTHEASTERN** (continued)

#### SUSSEX (Kelvin Wells)

Scattered showers fell over most of our area giving us some relief from the dry field conditions. Wheat harvest continues with good yields being reported, Planting of double-cropped soybean, nitrogen side-dressing to cotton and applying land plaster to peanut. Rain keeps coming!

# **CHESAPEAKE CITY (Watson Lawrence)**

Wheat yields are much better than expected. The dry period in May did not hurt yields or test weight as feared. Some excellent yields are being reported. Showers this week are improving soil moisture conditions and double cropped soybeans should benefit with good germination. Temperatures have moderated some this week. Farmers' Markets and vegetable stands have abundant produce this week. Early sweet corn is just coming on the market.



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